

Navajo Veterinary & Livestock Program

Lupine

Spring 2011

Chinle Clinic

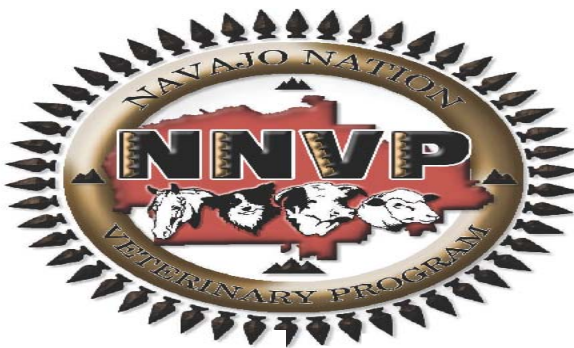
(928) 674-2069

Shiprock Clinic

(505) 368-1007

Window Rock Clinic

(928) 871-6615



Livestock Advisory—Lupine



*Blue—Purple Lupine
(Lupinus spp.)*



*Lupine showing typical palmate
leaf and flowers (L. leucophyllus)*

Livestock owners in the Western Agency of the Navajo Nation, Lupine has been observed by our tribal veterinary staff—Check your range. **Lupine** is a noxious weed and is a poisonous plant for all livestock. Lupine is a perennial (continuing each year) plant with a distinctive leaf structure called palmately, compound leaves each with 5-17 leaflets. The plants grow up to 3 feet in height with white, blue-

purple, red or yellow flowers. **Principal Toxin** All parts of the Lupine plant is poisonous. The dried plant is also considered to be toxic. The toxin from eating Lupine causes **fetal deformity**—Crooked Calf Disease. Crooked calf disease is found in calves born to cows that consume toxic lupine early in pregnancy. Affected calves may have varying degrees of deformities: beginning with

contracted tendons to extreme bone malformations. Toxicity to livestock includes a **nervous syndrome**. Acute (rapid disease onset) fatal disease in sheep and rarely in cattle and horses. The sheep have muscle tremors, noisy labored breath-

ing, convulsions, coma and death. Livestock that graze on Lupine with a fungus can cause additional symptoms in livestock of severe liver, kidney and muscle disease. Poor growth in sheep and sometimes cattle has been reported.

Crooked Calf Disease

